

What is claimed is:

1. A method for identifying data objects in  
a client browser using functions, said browser  
communicating with a server system via an electronic  
5 communication network, said method comprising:

transferring at least one data object  
and at least one function from said server system to  
said browser; and  
10 identifying at least one of said at  
least one data object using said function.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said  
transferring comprises transferring at least one  
function selected from a group consisting of:

15 a. a searching function;  
b. a grouping function;  
c. a sorting function; and  
d. a function comprising a  
combination of at least two of a - c.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein:  
20 said transferring comprises  
transferring at least one compressed data object; and  
said method further comprises  
decompressing said compressed data object.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said  
25 decompressing comprises converting data from base-n

values to base-10 values, wherein n is a number greater than 10.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein said decompressing comprises forming a database having at least one data object corresponding to a supplier, said at least one data object having at least one attribute selected from a group consisting of:

- 10 a. name information;
- b. address information;
- c. service information;
- d. hours of operation information;
- e. catalog information;
- f. critique information;
- 15 g. parking information;
- h. other information; and
- i. a combination of at least two of a-h.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein said decompressing comprises forming a database having at least one data object corresponding to a food supplier, said at least one data object having at least one attribute selected from a group consisting of:

- 25 a. name information;
- b. address information;
- c. cuisine information;
- d. delivery information;

- information;
- 5
- e. take-out information;
  - f. hours of operation
  - g. menu information;
  - h. attire information;
  - i. parking information;
  - j. atmosphere information;
  - k. review information;
  - l. other information; and
  - 10 m. a combination of at least two
- of a-l.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein said decompressing comprises forming a database having at least one data object corresponding to a catalog item,

15 said at least one data object having at least one attribute selected from a group consisting of:

- a. name information;
  - b. identification number
- information;
- 20
- c. size information;
  - d. color information;
  - e. material information;
  - f. inventory information;
  - g. customization information; and
  - 25 h. a combination of at least two
- of a-g.

8. The method of claim 3, wherein said decompressing comprises forming a database having at least one data object corresponding to a food item, said at least one data object having at least one  
5 attribute selected from a group consisting of:

- a. name information;
- b. identification number  
information;
- c. size information;
- 10 d. customization information;
- e. delivery information; and
- f. a combination of at least two  
of a-e.

9. The method of claim 1, further  
15 comprising presenting at least one identified data object to a user of said browser.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein said presenting comprises displaying graphical representations of said at least one identified data  
20 object, said at least one identified data object selected from a group consisting of:

- a. a supplier;
- b. a catalog item;
- c. a menu item; and
- 25 d. a combination of at least two  
of a-c.

11. A system for identifying data objects in a client browser using functions, comprising:

means for transferring at least one data object and at least one function from a server system  
5 to a browser via an electronic communication network;  
and

means for identifying at least one of said at least one data object using said function,  
said means for transferring and said  
10 means for identifying in communication via an electronic communication system.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein said means for transferring comprises means for transferring at least one function selected from a group consisting  
15 of:

- a. a searching function;
- b. a grouping function;
- c. a sorting function; and
- d. a function comprising a  
20 combination of at least two of a - c.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein:  
said means for transferring comprises means for transferring at least one compressed data object; and  
25 said system further comprises means for decompressing said compressed data object,

said means for decompressing, said means for transferring and said means for identifying in communication via an electronic communication system.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein said  
5 means for decompressing comprises means for converting data from base-n values to base-10 values, wherein n is a number greater than 10.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein said  
means for decompressing comprises means for forming a  
10 database having at least one data object corresponding to a supplier, said at least one data object having at least one attribute selected from a group consisting of:

- 15 a. name information;
  - b. address information;
  - c. service information;
  - d. hours of operation
  - information;
  - e. catalog information;
  - 20 f. critique information;
  - g. parking information;
  - h. other information; and
  - i. a combination of at least two
- of a-h.

25 16. The system of claim 13, wherein said means for decompressing comprises means for forming a

database having at least one data object corresponding to a food supplier, said at least one data object having at least one attribute selected from a group consisting of:

- 5                                   a.    name information;
- b.    address information;
- c.    cuisine information;
- d.    delivery information;
- e.    take-out information;
- 10                                  f.    hours of operation
- information;
- g.    menu information;
- h.    attire information;
- i.    parking information;
- 15                                  j.    atmosphere information;
- k.    review information;
- l.    other information; and
- m.    a combination of at least two
- of a-l.

- 20                   17.   The system of claim 13, wherein said means for decompressing comprises means for forming a database having at least one data object corresponding to a catalog item, said at least one data object having at least one attribute selected from a group consisting
- 25   of:
- a.    name information;
- b.    identification number
- information;

- c. size information;
  - d. color information;
  - e. material information;
  - f. inventory information;
  - 5 g. customization information; and
  - h. a combination of at least two
- of a-g.

18. The system of claim 13, wherein said means for decompressing comprises forming a database  
10 having at least one data object corresponding to a food item, said at least one data object having at least one attribute selected from a group consisting of:

- a. name information;
  - b. identification number
  - 15 information;
  - c. size information;
  - d. customization information;
  - e. delivery information; and
  - f. a combination of at least two
- 20 of a-e.

19. The system of claim 11, further comprising means for presenting at least one identified data object to a user of said browser,  
said means for presenting, said means  
25 for transferring and said means for identifying in communication via an electronic communication system.



20. The system of claim 19, wherein said means for presenting comprises means for displaying graphical representations of said at least one identified data objects, said at least one identified data object selected from a group consisting of:

- a. a supplier;
- b. a catalog item;
- c. a menu item; and
- d. a combination of at least two

10 of a-c.